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THE THREE MUSKETEERS

ALEXANDRE
DUMAS



THE THREE MUSKETEERS

ALEXANDRE DUMAS



Saddleback's *Illustrated Classics*TM



Three Watson

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Welcome to Saddleback's *Illustrated Classics*TM

We are proud to welcome you to Saddleback's *Illustrated Classics*TM. Saddleback's *Illustrated Classics*TM was designed specifically for the classroom to introduce readers to many of the great classics in literature. Each text, written and adapted by teachers and researchers, has been edited using the Dale-Chall vocabulary system. In addition, much time and effort has been spent to ensure that these high-interest stories retain all of the excitement, intrigue, and adventure of the original books.

With these graphically *Illustrated Classics*TM, you learn what happens in the story in a number of different ways. One way is by reading the words a character says. Another way is by looking at the drawings of the character. The artist can tell you what kind of person a character is and what he or she is thinking or feeling.

This series will help you to develop confidence and a sense of accomplishment as you finish each novel. The stories in Saddleback's *Illustrated Classics*TM are fun to read. And remember, fun motivates!

Overview

Everyone deserves to read the best literature our language has to offer. Saddleback's *Illustrated Classics*[™] was designed to acquaint readers with the most famous stories from the world's greatest authors, while teaching essential skills. You will learn how to:

- Establish a purpose for reading
- Use prior knowledge
- Evaluate your reading
- Listen to the language as it is written
- Extend literary and language appreciation through discussion and writing activities

Reading is one of the most important skills you will ever learn. It provides the key to all kinds of information. By reading the *Illustrated Classics*[™], you will develop confidence and the self-satisfaction that comes from accomplishment—a solid foundation for any reader.

Step-By-Step

The following is a simple guide to using and enjoying each of your *Illustrated Classics*[™]. To maximize your use of the learning activities provided, we suggest that you follow these steps:

1. ***Listen!*** We suggest that you listen to the read-along. (At this time, please ignore the beeps.) You will enjoy this wonderfully dramatized presentation.
2. ***Pre-reading Activities.*** After listening to the audio presentation, the pre-reading activities in the Activity Book prepare you for reading the story by setting the scene, introducing more difficult vocabulary words, and providing some short exercises.
3. ***Reading Activities.*** Now turn to the “While you are reading” portion of the Activity Book, which directs you to make a list of story-related facts. Read-along while listening to the audio presentation. (This time pay attention to the beeps, as they indicate when each page should be turned.)
4. ***Post-reading Activities.*** You have successfully read the story and listened to the audio presentation. Now answer the multiple-choice questions and other activities in the Activity Book.

Remember,

“Today’s readers are tomorrow’s leaders.”



Alexandre Dumas

Alexandre Dumas, a French novelist and dramatist, was born at Viller-Cotterets in 1802. His father, the illegitimate son of a marquis, was a general in the Revolutionary armies, but died when Dumas was only four-years-old. He received a basic education from a priest and entered the office of a local lawyer.

After he met General Foy he became a clerk in the service of the Duke of Orleans. At that time he began to collaborate with Leuven in the production of vaudevilles and melodramas.

In 1844 he produced, with the help of Auguste Maquet, his new collaborator, a famous cloak-and-dagger romance, *The Three Musketeers*, which is based almost solely on historical fact, as opposed to his other very successful novel, *The Count of Monte Cristo*, which was a product of his brilliant imagination.

Much has been written about Dumas' share in the novels which bear his name. The Dumas-Marquet series is undoubtedly the best. But the manuscripts of novels still exist in Dumas' handwriting and attest to his skill as a narrator, and he is considered by most literary critics as "the master of narrative."

Dumas died in 1870.

Saddleback's *Illustrated Classics*™

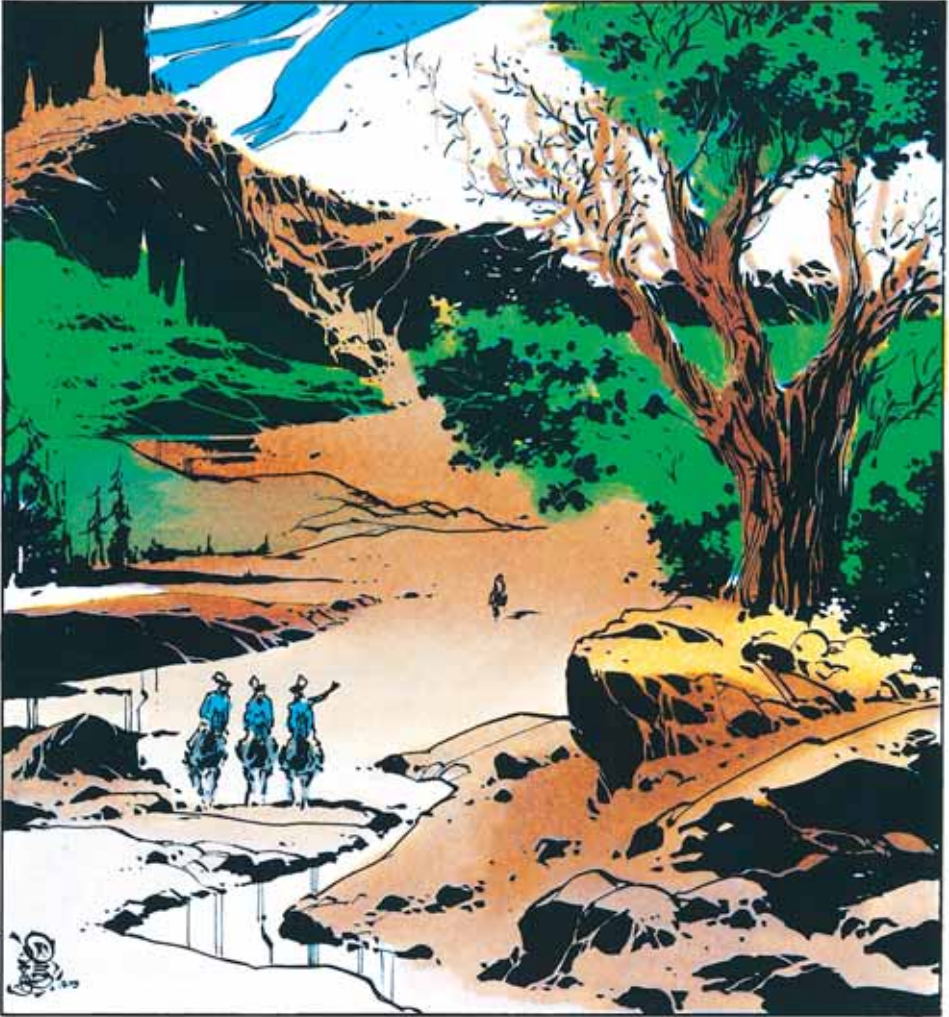
THE THREE MUSKETEERS

ALEXANDRE DUMAS

THE MAIN CHARACTERS



In France in 1627, fighting was very popular. Rich families fought each other, the King fought the cardinal and other leaders of the church. Everyone knew that the King and Queen no longer loved each other and did not agree on anything. So the cardinal plotted against the Queen. For the smallest reason, the King's guards called the musketeers, fought the cardinal's guards. Both these groups of soldiers were famous for their ability to use the sword.



Into this disagreement, one day in April, rode M. d'Artagnan, a very young gentleman whose greatest wish was to become one of the King's musketeers. He brought a letter from his father to M. de Treville, an old friend who was now Captain of the musketeers.

When he got to M. de Treville's house in Paris, the courtyard was filled with musketeers who paid no attention to him.



A servant took him to de Treville's office.







De Treville told the three men to go, then turned to d'Artagnan.





De Treville gave d'Artagnan a letter to the Director of the Royal Academy. Happy, d'Artagnan left, leaping down the stairs four at a time.

Slipping, he fell against a musketeer.





At the gate, d'Artagnan saw Porthos talking to the guard.



As he passed, the wind suddenly blew out Porthos' cloak and. . .





Now, on the street, d'Artagnan saw Aramis talking with friends. Having already made two of the three musketeers angry he had seen in de Treville's office, he decided to be very polite and pleasant to the third one!

He approached Aramis with a deep bow and a smile. Then he saw that Aramis stood with one foot upon a fine, initialed handkerchief.





Aramis's friends left, laughing. He turned on d'Artagnan.



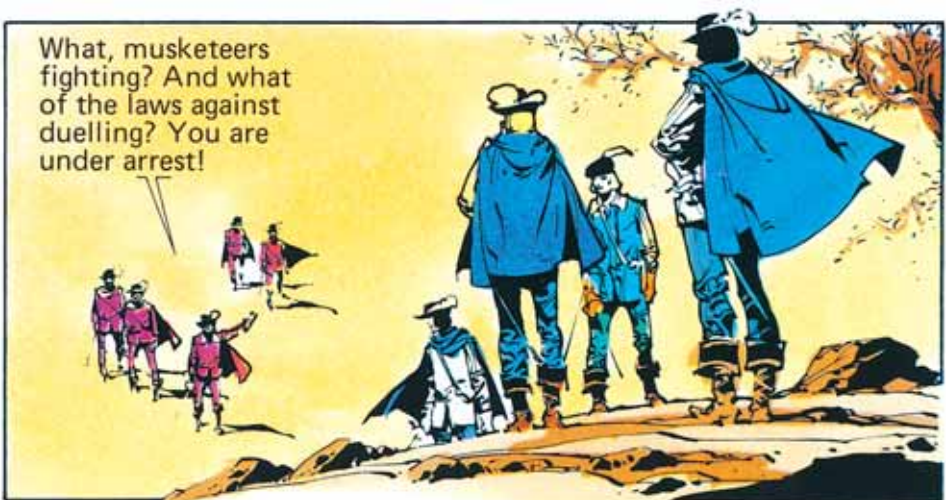
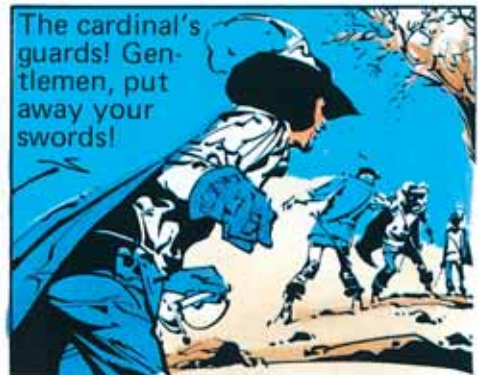
Since it was near noon d'Artagnan took the road that would lead him to his first duel.

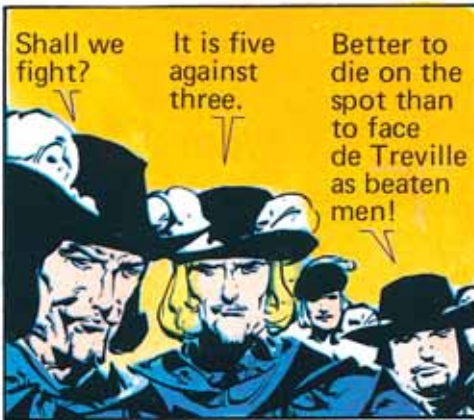


He found Athos waiting at the meeting place.



But the two men had just crossed swords when Aramis cried out.





Drawing their swords, d'Artagnan and the three musketeers charged the swordsmen of the cardinal's guards.



In this fight d'Artagnan proved himself skillful with his sword. Soon all the guards were dead, wounded, or overpowered; the musketeers took the road back to de Treville's.

They walked arm in arm. D'Artagnan's heart swelled with happiness.



From then on, the four men were united in a close friendship. When not together, they were looking one for another. D'Artagnan learned from them something of life in Paris and at the Court. He became well-known and was brought to the notice of the King.

One day in his attic apartment, d'Artagnan received a visit from his landlord.





D'Artagnan thought about what he had heard of the unhappy Queen. The King cared nothing for her. The cardinal planned against her. The English Duke of Buckingham had fallen deeply in love with her, but the English were enemies of the French. Although the Queen was true to her husband, the Duke had given the cardinal a chance to get her into trouble.

As Bonacieux went one way and d'Artagnan started another, he heard noises. . . .



Inside, he found a lovely woman fighting off three men. He came to her aid and drove them away.

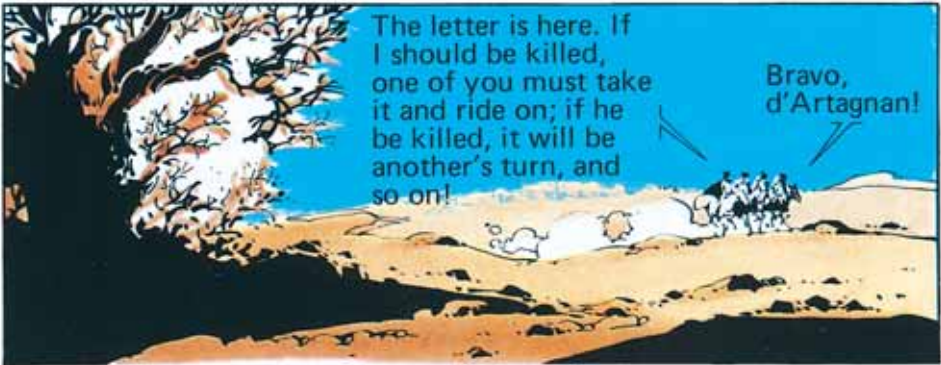




D'Artagnan went to tell his friends, who agreed to go with him.



At two o'clock in the morning, they left Paris.



At the town of Chantilly, they stopped for breakfast.



As they finished the meal, a stranger came up to them.





The three men went on. Near Beauvais, they came upon a group of road workers.



Suddenly the men jumped into a ditch, took up muskets, and fired on the three friends.



Aramis, though wounded, rode on with the others.

But later he could go no further.



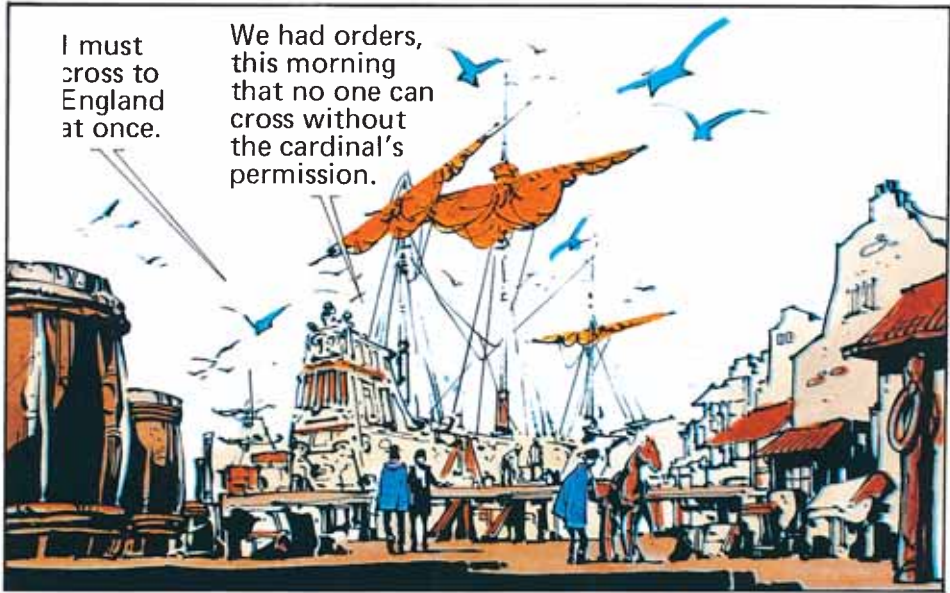
At midnight, Athos and d'Artagnan stopped at an inn. The next morning Athos went into the office to pay the bill.



The innkeeper shouted. Armed guards rushed in and fell upon Athos.

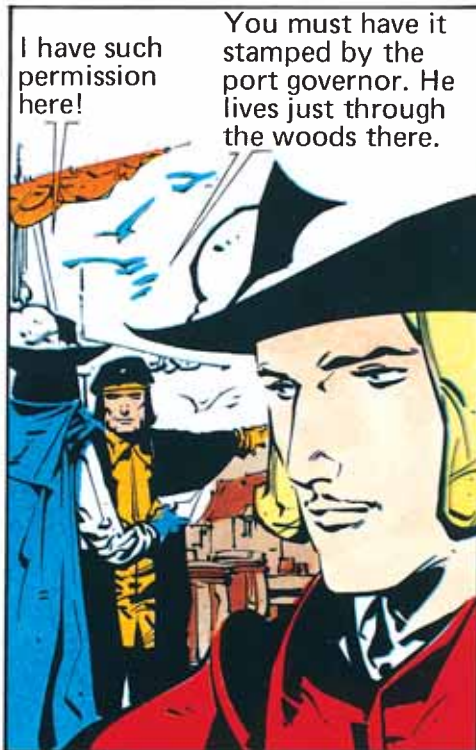


D'Artagnan leaped on his horse and rode on, alone. Reaching the port of Calais, he saw another traveler just ahead.



I must cross to England at once.

We had orders, this morning that no one can cross without the cardinal's permission.



I have such permission here!

You must have it stamped by the port governor. He lives just through the woods there.

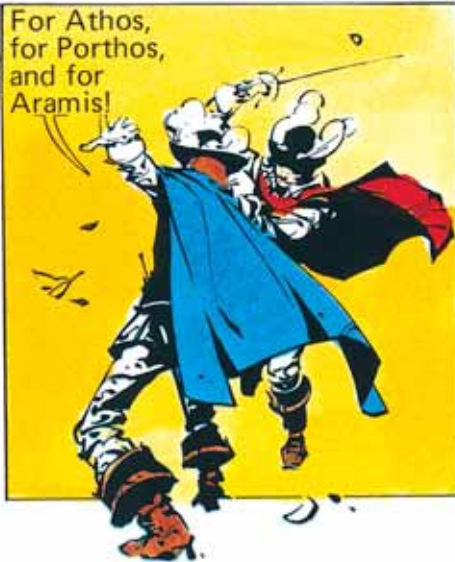
The man started off. D'Artagnan followed.



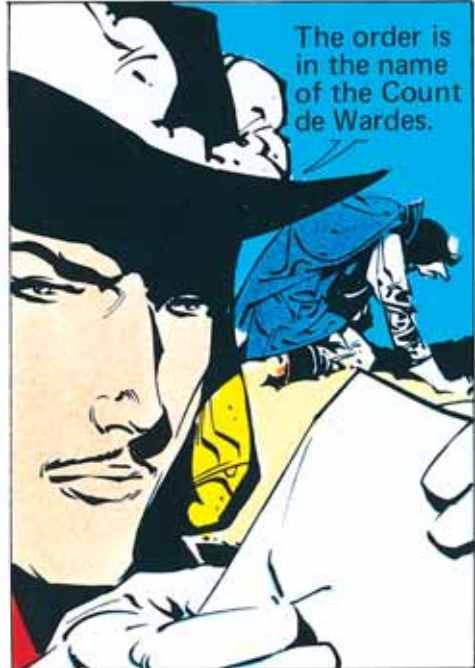
Sir, a moment, please!



In three seconds, d'Artagnan had wounded him three times.



The man fell unconscious. D'Artagnan took the order from his pocket.

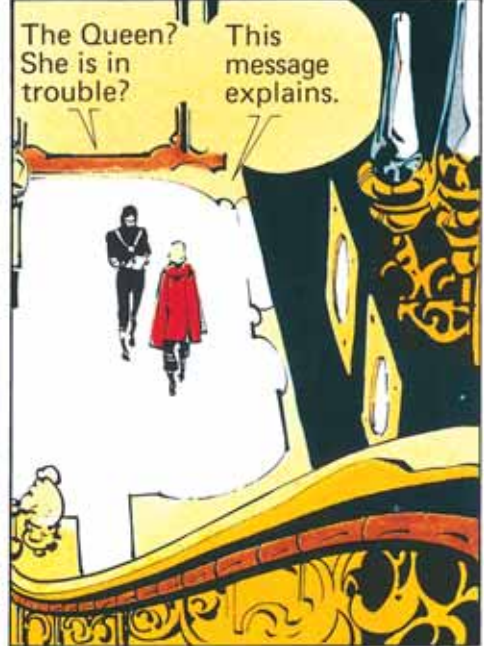


Going on to the Governor's house, d'Artagnan showed him the order.



D'Artagnan gave the Governor an exact description of Count de Wardes!

The passport signed, d'Artagnan had no more trouble in reaching London. There, he went to the Duke.







The Duke put his jeweler to work. Two days later, d'Artagnan was ready to return to France with twelve diamond studs.



D'Artagnan returned to Paris safely and gave the diamonds to Madame Bonacieux. And the next evening the King and Queen received the cardinal at a great ball.



My diamonds
are very lovely
...are they
not? All twelve
of them!

Indeed,
yes, your
majesty!

And the next day, d'Artagnan received a message.

*He went to St. Cloud and waited.
At 11 o'clock he grew uneasy.*



Great thanks
are due you;
Come this evening
at ten o'clock
to the pavillon
at St. Cloud.
C.B.



No sign.
nothing! Can
something
have happened?

At last he swung himself up into a tree.



Empty. . .
and there
has been
an awful
fight!



*On the ground again,
he made another
discovery.*



Her glove,
torn and
muddy!

*Sure that Mme. Bonacieux had
been carried off again, he went
to de Treville with the story.*

All this smells of
the cardinal! He
was very angry at
the ball. He must
know how the
diamonds were
returned to Paris.



The cardinal
is a dangerous
enemy! You
must leave
Paris for
a while.

But I must find
Mme. Bonacieux!
If only my friends
were here to help.



There is nothing you can do. I will tell the Queen. She may be able to help.

Then I will go and look for my friends.



D'Artagnan went to Chantilly, to the inn where he had left Porthos.

Can you tell me what has happened to my friend?

M. Porthos? He is here, recovering from a chest wound.



He lost his money gambling with another guest. . . he owes a terrible bill. . .



When I ask him to pay, he says he will blow my brains out! Please take him away!



D'Artagnan! Welcome! Did you hear my story? I slipped on a stone and sprained my ankle.





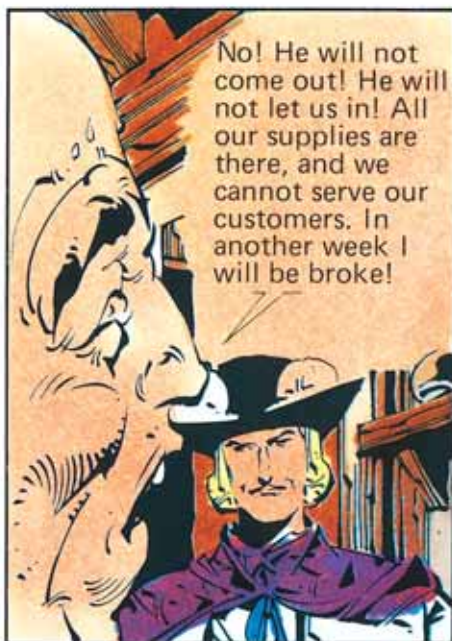
At a second inn, he found Aramis.





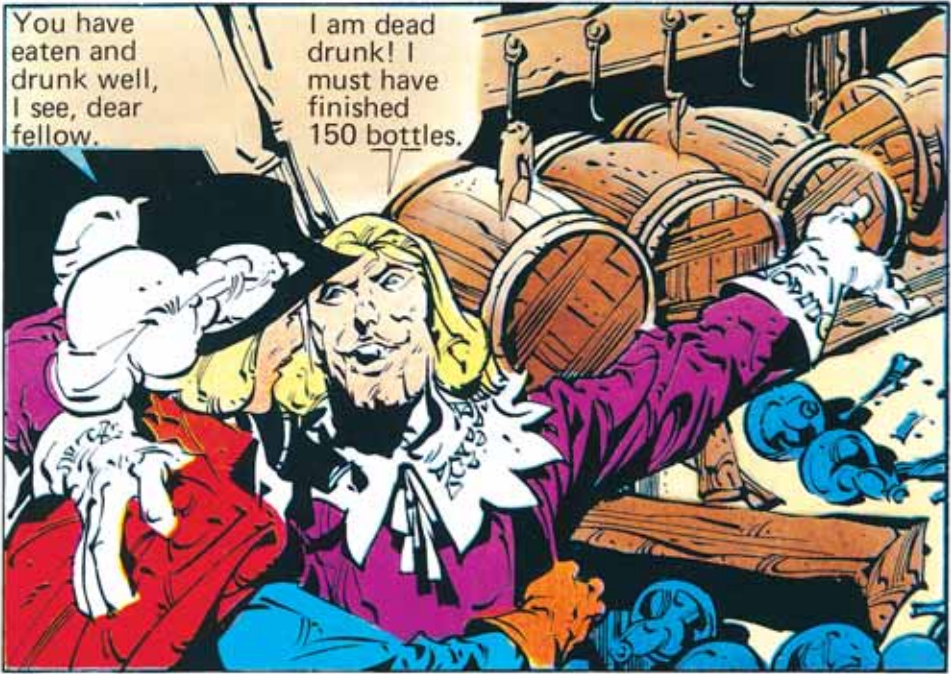
As Aramis had not completely recovered, d'Artagnan went on alone. Angrily he entered the inn where he had left Athos.





D'Artagnan went to the cellar.







She lived with her brother, a parish priest. They were unknown, penniless. . .but she was so lovely, her brother so good, who could not trust them?



The young Count could have taken her and carried her away, but he was an honorable man. He married her and made her his Countess.

One day when they were hunting, she fell from her horse and fainted. The Count loosened her dress, and what do you think he found on her shoulder?





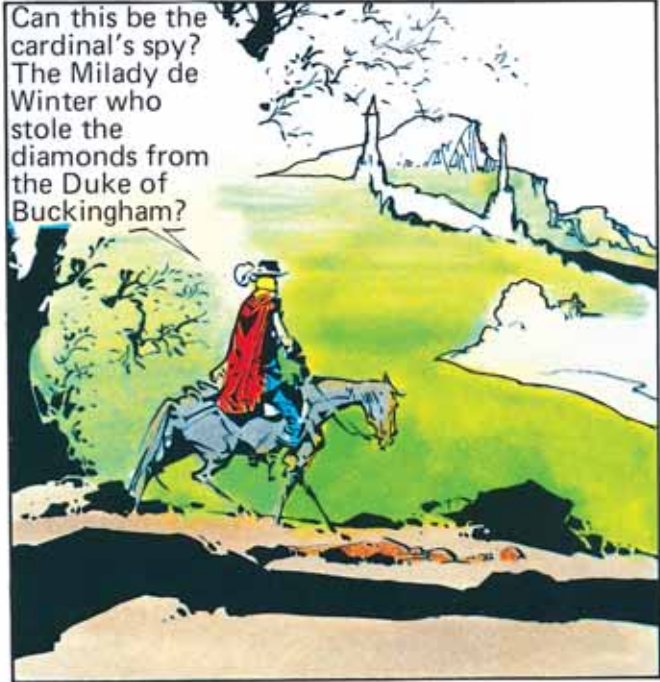
The next day d'Artagnan and Athos set out for Paris, stopping on the way for Aramis and Porthos. At home, there was news.

Out riding one day, d'Artagnan came upon a beautiful lady in a parked carriage.





As the carriage rolled on, d'Artagnan looked after it thoughtfully.



Hoping to learn more news of Constance Bonacieux, d'Artagnan accepted Lady de Winter's invitation. He called several times in the next few days. At last, one night, he overheard her talking to her maid.





D'Artagnan grabbed milady by the shoulder. As she pulled away, her gown tore.



She turned upon him like a wounded animal.



Shocked, d'Artagnan ran from the house and half across Paris.



He did not stop until he came to Athos' door.



I have just made an
awful discovery.
Milady is branded
with the fleur-de-lis
on her shoulder!



The other. . .the
woman you told me
about. . .are you sure
she is dead?





Two days later, the troops marched from Paris toward La Rochelle to fight the English. D'Artagnan's small unit went forward as part of the advance guard. The King, becoming ill, stopped at Villeroy; and as always, the musketeers stayed with the King. So d'Artagnan was separated from his three friends.



Several days later, after a night in the fields, d'Artagnan returned to his inn.



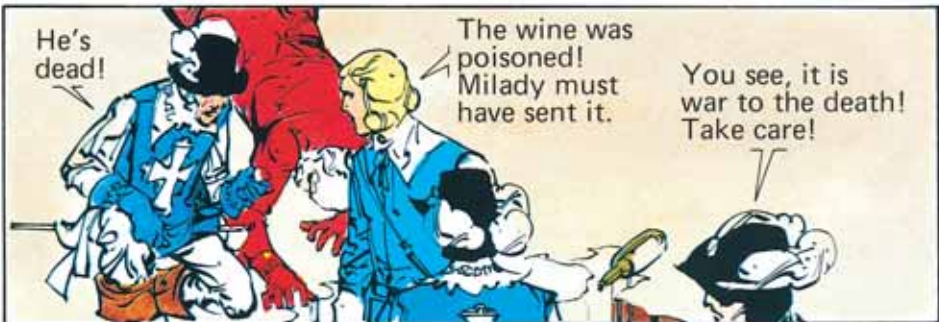
About to taste the wine, he heard noise and cheers from outside.



They hurried to d'Artagnan's room where they found. . . .



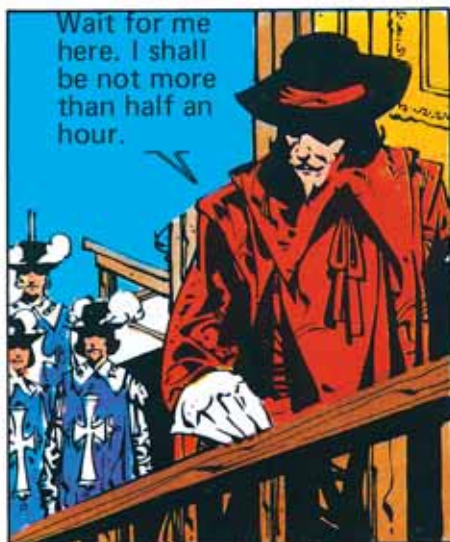
They hurried to d'Artagnan's room.



The three musketeers returned to their camp. One night, out riding, they came upon a horseman.



The musketeers rode with the cardinal to an inn.

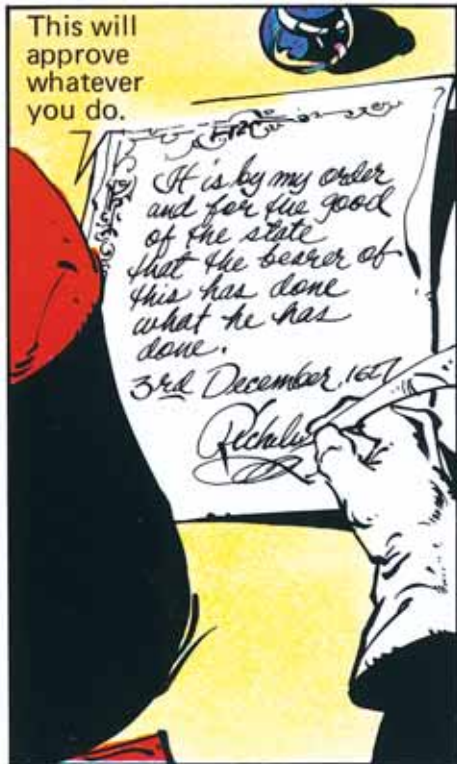


As they waited, Athos walked restlessly.

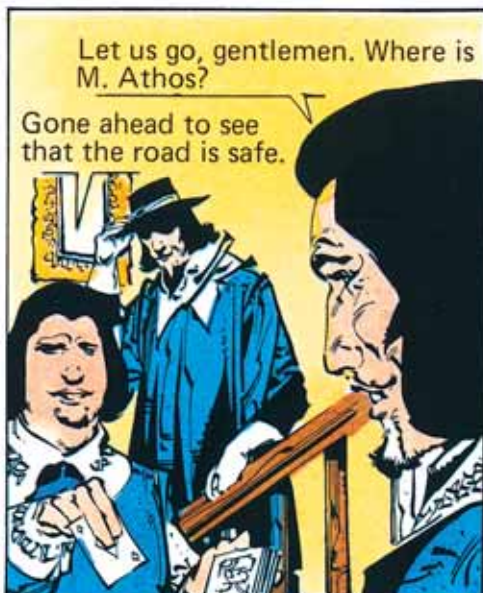


Through the stovepipe, he heard voices.





A few minutes later, the cardinal returned.



But when the others left, Athos returned.



The next day the musketeers met d'Artagnan for breakfast. Swiss guards and musketeers crowded into the inn.



Carrying their breakfast, they soon reached the fort.



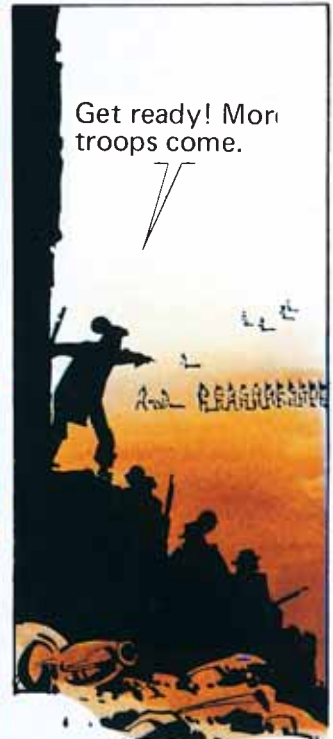
Athos told him what had happened the night before.

Suddenly. . .





The four friends fired back and put the enemy to flight.

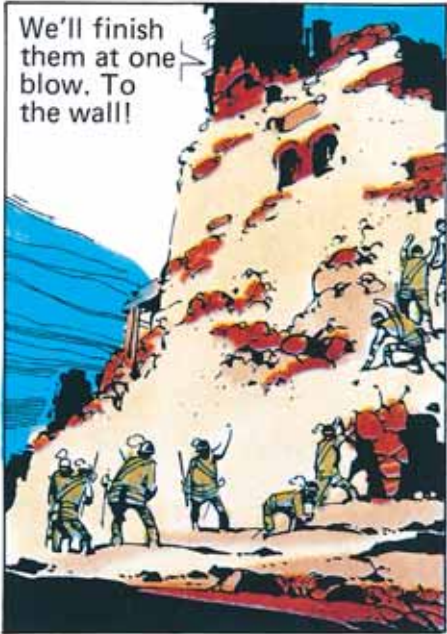


The four friends fired and four of the enemy fell.



In spite of the shots coming from the Frenchmen, a dozen enemy troops reached the foot of the wall.

At a push from the four friends, a great sheet of wall fell with a crash upon the enemy.





The four men returned to camp as heroes. And because of his part in the event, d'Artagnan was made a musketeer.



Soon Milady arrived in England. Because of the musketeer's letter to de Winter, she was met by a naval officer.

She was taken to a fine house and into a room with barred windows.



Lord de Winter appeared in the doorway.

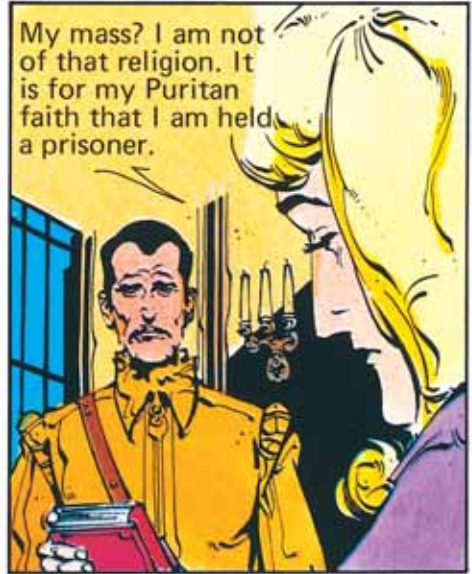


Alone, Milady walked the floor, as angry as could be.



Felton came several times a day to take care of her. On one visit he brought a book.

Suddenly, Milady guessed that Felton was a Puritan.

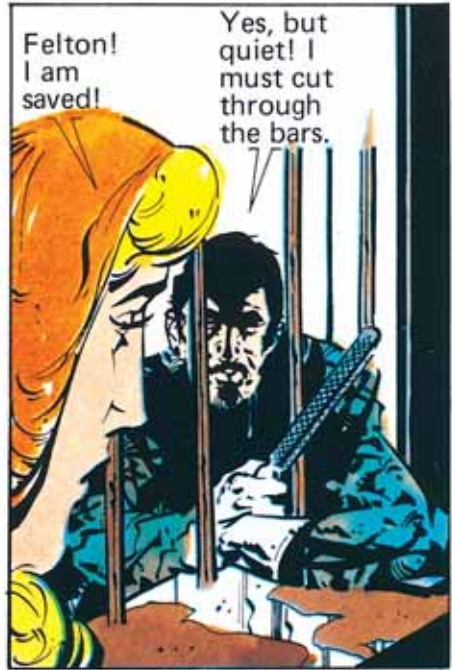


She took care that he should find her often at her prayers.

He finally had to question her.



Fooled by her beauty, Felton believed her lies and agreed to help her. During a storm, the night she was to be sent away, she heard a tap at the window.



When he had finished. . .



Slowly they climbed down Felton's rope ladder.



Felton led Milady to the sea.



The next day Felton found the Duke of Buckingham...and plunged his knife into the Duke's side!



The four musketeers, on leave continued their search for Constance Bonacieux. Milady, reaching France, went to await orders from the cardinal. She met another young woman who had found safety there.



Suddenly a clatter of hoofs was heard.



Secretly Milady poured a reddish powder into a glass of wine.



Constance drank and sank to the ground, as Milady fled.



Athos spoke to the Mother Superior.

We leave this lady's body to your holy care. We will return later to pray at her grave.



Wait for me at the inn. I have a job to do.



Later he came back with a tall, masked man.



He led the party through a stormy night to a lonely house.



She is there.



Seeing Athos, Milady screamed.





Milady is found guilty and sentenced by the musketeers.



The sentence was death. Tying Milady's hands, carrying his great sword, the executioner led her to a boat and rowed across the river. From the other bank, the musketeers saw his sword rise and fall.



The musketeers returned to La Rochelle. There d'Artagnan was arrested and brought before the cardinal.



He gave the cardinal the note taken from Milady.





D'Artagnan hurried to find his friends.



The war ended. One more time, the four friends met to give their toast.



Then Porthos quit the musketeers to marry a rich widow, Aramis entered a monastery, and Athos left the service to live on his country estate. D'Artagnan became a lieutenant and continued to serve bravely, and live adventurously.

THE
END

THE THREE MUSKETEERS

*“All for one, one for all”. . . the legendary, immortal motto
of the colorful and courageous musketeers.*

Alexandre Dumas lives up to his legendary reputation with his brilliant nineteenth-century historical classic adventure . . . *The Three Musketeers*. The story exemplifies camaraderie and the loyalty the musketeers had to their king, queen, and country.

The main characters . . . Athos, Porthos, and Aramis, the adventurous three musketeers, later joined by d’Artagnan, the colorful and courageous new musketeer . . . all unite in their dedication to the defense of France and the destruction of Lady de Winter, “Milady,” the conniving spy of Cardinal Richelieu and wicked murderer of Constance Bonacieux, the loyal seamstress and friend of the French queen.



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